

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-6 (canceled).

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7. (New) A method of using aqueous paint, comprising:
coating onto an object an aqueous paint having a color;
collecting as excess paint, irrespective of said color and in accordance with a classification
of said aqueous paint based on identity of a combination of pigments contained in said aqueous
paint, said aqueous paint that is not coated onto said object; and
reusing said excess paint.

8. (New) The method according to claim 7, wherein
coating onto an object an aqueous paint having a color includes, in a coating booth spraying
onto said object an aqueous paint having a color that is a result of mixing at least two original color
aqueous paints,
collecting as excess paint said aqueous paint that is not coated onto said object includes
(i) receiving in a water curtain, as over-spray paint, said aqueous paint that is not
sprayed onto said object,
(ii) separating said over-spray paint from water of said water curtain, and
(iii) concentrating said over-spray paint so as to provide concentrated paint, and
reusing said excess paint includes reusing said concentrated paint.

9. (New) The method according to claim 8, wherein
separating said over-spray paint from water of said water curtain and concentrating said
over-spray paint includes using ultrafiltration equipment to separate said over-spray paint from said
water of said water curtain and to concentrate said over-spray paint.

10. (New) The method according to claim 9, further comprising:
between (i) and (ii), receiving in a circulation water bath said over-spray paint and said water of said water curtain;
receiving said concentrated paint in a concentrated paint bath; and
removing said concentrated paint from said concentrated paint bath prior to reusing said concentrated paint.

A 11. (New) The method according to claim 10, further comprising:
prior to reusing said concentrated paint, using computer-color-matching equipment to determine a spectral reflection factor of said concentrated paint.

12. (New) The method according to claim 11, further comprising:
prior to reusing said concentrated paint, using said spectral reflection factor to prepare additional aqueous paint having a color that is the same as that of said concentrated paint.

13. (New) The method according to claim 10, further comprising:
while said concentrated paint is in said concentrated paint bath, preparing additional aqueous paint having a color that is the same as that of said concentrated paint.

14. (New) The method according to claim 10, wherein said aqueous paint having a color is a first aqueous paint, and using ultrafiltration equipment to separate said over-spray paint from said water of said water curtain and to concentrate said over-spray paint results in said concentrated paint and a filtrate, said method further comprising:

stopping coating of said first aqueous paint onto said object;
washing said coating booth with said filtrate; and
coating onto an object a second aqueous paint having a color that is different than said color of said first aqueous paint and having a combination of pigments that is different from said combination of pigments contained in said first aqueous paint.

15. (New) The method according to claim 7, wherein said aqueous paint having a color is a first aqueous paint, said excess paint is first excess paint, and collecting said first aqueous paint as first excess paint that is not coated onto said object comprises using a first system to collect said first excess paint, said method further comprising:

coating onto an object a second aqueous paint having a color that is different than said color of said first aqueous paint and having a combination of pigments that is the same as said combination of pigments contained in said first aqueous paint; and

A' using said first system to collect as second excess paint said second aqueous paint that is not coated onto said object which is coated by said second aqueous paint.

16. (New) The method according to claim 15, wherein coating onto an object said first aqueous paint includes, in a coating booth spraying onto said object said first aqueous paint,

coating onto an object said second aqueous paint includes, in said coating booth spraying onto said object said second aqueous paint,

using said first system to collect said first excess paint includes

(i) receiving in a water curtain, as first over-spray paint, said first aqueous paint that is not sprayed onto said object,

(ii) receiving in a circulation water bath said first over-spray paint and water of said water curtain;

(iii) using ultrafiltration equipment to separate said first over-spray paint from said water of said water curtain and to concentrate said first over-spray paint so as to provide first concentrated paint, and

(iv) receiving said first concentrated paint in a concentrated paint bath, and

using said first system to collect said second excess paint includes

(v) receiving in a water curtain, as second over-spray paint, said second aqueous paint that is not sprayed onto said object which is coated by said second aqueous paint,

(vi) receiving in said circulation water bath said second over-spray paint and water of said water curtain;

(vii) using said ultrafiltration equipment to separate said second over-spray paint from said water of said water curtain and to concentrate said second over-spray paint so as to provide second concentrated paint, and

(viii) receiving said second concentrated paint in said concentrated paint bath.

17. (New) The method according to claim 16, wherein reusing said first excess paint comprises reusing said first concentrated paint, said method further comprising:
reusing said second concentrated paint.

18. (New) The method according to claim 17, further comprising:
prior to reusing said first concentrated paint or said second concentrated paint, using computer-color-matching equipment to determine a spectral reflection factor of concentrated paint in said concentrated paint bath.

19. (New) The method according to claim 18, further comprising:
prior to reusing said first concentrated paint or said second concentrated paint, using said spectral reflection factor to prepare additional aqueous paint having a color that is the same as that of said concentrated paint in said concentrated paint bath.

20. (New) The method according to claim 15, further comprising:
reusing said second excess paint.

21. (New) The method according to claim 7, further comprising:
prior to reusing said excess paint, using computer-color-matching equipment to determine a spectral reflection factor of said excess paint.

A 22. (New) The method according to claim 21, further comprising:
prior to reusing said excess paint, using said spectral reflection factor to prepare
additional aqueous paint having a color that is the same as that of said excess paint.
